

REMARKS

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 2, 3, and 5-7 are now pending in this application, with Claims 2, 3, 5, and 7 being independent. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended Claims 2, 3, 5, and 7, and canceled Claim 1. No new matter has been added.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,627,669 (Orino, et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,116,537 (Dilworth).

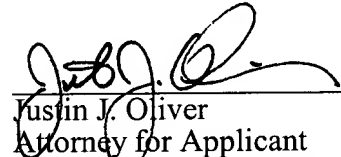
The cancellation of Claim 1 renders this rejection moot. Accordingly, Applicant requests withdrawal of the same.

Claims 2, 3, and 5-7 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but the Office Action indicated that those claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. By this Amendment, Applicant has rewritten Claims 2, 3, 5, and 7, in independent form. Claim 6 depends from independent Claim 5. Also, with respect to independent Claim 3, Applicant directs the attention of the Examiner to further amendments to that claim. Specifically, in addition to writing the claim in independent form, Applicant has removed the means plus function language from the claim and further amended the recitation of the light receiver (formerly light receiving means). Applicant submits that Claim 3 remains allowable.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the claims are allowable over the documents of record and requests a Notice of Allowance acknowledging the same.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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